



Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board



Minutes of the May 5, 2010 Sister Cities Board meeting

The Meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Takako, Wakita at 12:00 noon. The Secretary was asked to call the roll. Members attending were: Takako Wakita, Chairperson ; Janet Baker, Recording Secretary; Marianne Freeman, Dingle, Ireland; David Gorbet and Barbara Ellis, Alternate, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Linda Mathews , Toba, Japan; Joe Cantrell, Weihai, China; George Lilly, Kotor, Montenegro; Linda Gunther , Staff Representative.

Members absent were : Wayne Hewitt, Vice Chairperson; Jaime Sodusta, San Juan, Phillipines.

Guests: Theony Condos and delegation representing proposed Sister City in Patras, Greece.

On a motion duly made, seconded and carried the minutes of the March 3, 2010, were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Linda Gunther, Staff Representative , reported that the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget for the Sister Cities Program has been cut to \$800.00 which will just cover the International dues but not the rental of the Cabrillo Arts Center for the United Nations Dinner this year. Linda also reminded the Board of the City Advisory Group meeting at the Faulkner Gallery on May 19, 2010.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Representatives of Visual Travel Tours presented a video and explained their services which uses pictures, videos, and text of Santa Barbara for your cell phone or computer for visitors to preview scenes of Santa Barbara at home to influence them to visit Santa Barbara.

Theony Condos introduced the members of the delegation here to present a proposal for Patras, Greece to become a Sister City to Santa Barbara. They showed a short video of Patras and told of the similarities to Santa Barbara. Takako asked the Representatives to take this information back to their committies and be prepared for discussion at the July meeting.

REVIEW OF CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2010: Only change was the trip to Copper Canyon on May 14-23rd sponsored by the Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee which was canceled for lack of participation. Takako reported that no one from the Sister Cities Board will be attending the SCI Convention this year.

9-11 CONCERT: Takako reported that the Santa Barbara Historical Society had contacted Linda Mathews regarding the possibility of having the 9-11

Concert following the Japanese Festival which will be held on that same day. Linda said that the Society said they would pay for the publicity, however, this would mean we would have to have the Concert at Case DeLaGuerra where we have had it previously with not much success. After due discussion, on a motion duly made, seconded and carried it was moved that we have it at the Unitarian Church where we had it last year and proved to be very successful. This will be in conjunction with the Santa Barbara Music Club again this year and they will provide some entertainment.

UNITED NATIONS DAY CELEBRATION: Takako reported that the Board does have some money in reserve so that we can pay for the rental at the Cabrillo Arts Center. Takako also said that a delegation from Toba will be visiting during this time and will be attending the Celebration. After due discussion, on a motion duly made, seconded and carried it was moved that we sponsor this event again this year. Further discussion will be held at the July meeting.

ESTABLISHING THE SISTER CITIES CORNER AT MAIN LIBRARY: No report was made as Dr. Haslund was not present.

SANTA BARBARA VISIT OF CYCLISTS FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGE FROM SANTA CRUZ ON MAY 26th: After due discussion it was decided that the Board cannot participate as a group but if any individuals would like to volunteer it would be appreciated.

PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY TV CHANNEL 17: No report was made as Wayne Hewitt was not present.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Dingle, Ireland: Marianne Freeman reported they are still trying to get the group energized. They are not planning a trip to Dingle this year as the cost was too great. They plan to have three or four meetings this year and are restructuring the Committee.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico: Barbara Ellis reported that nine students from Santa Barbara went to Puerto Vallarta and students from Puerto Vallarta will be coming here in July. The Puerto Vallarta group held their first Annual Golf Tournament as a fund raiser on May 3rd with 43 participants. This Committee participated in the Cinco de Mayo Celebration again this year but wasn't as successful as past years due to the economy and several other events going on at the same time. She invited everyone to the meeting tonight at the Timbers to honor Evie Treen

for Lifetime Achievements, they are expecting 120 people to attend.

Toba, Japan: Linda Mathews reported that the group participated in three Lecture series at the Santa Barbara Botanical Gardens to benefit the Tea House, the last lecture will be on May 22nd.

Weihai, China: Joe Cantrell reported that they have been having monthly meetings. They also have established a successful business relationship between True Vision Medical Group in Santa Barbara and a Medical Distributing company in Weihai. He said that a group of 20 dignitaries and executives from the Medical Group in Weihai visited Santa Barbara for a meeting recently.

Kotor, Montenegro: George Lilly reported that three Culinary students from Kotor are scheduled to come to Santa Barbara for the month of June to intern at restaurants in Los Angeles and Santa Barbara and will spend time at Santa Barbara City College Culinary School. In July two culinary students from Santa Barbara will attend the Culinary Academy in Kotor. He said that Deanne Sharten, a professional photographer, and new member to the Kotor Sister City will be going to Kotor in July to photo Montenegro and the city of Kotor to create a book on the Sister City relationship. The Montenegro Water Polo Team will be competing in Southern California in June and will play an exhibition match at UCSB while here. George said they have extended an invitation to the Mayor of Kotor to send a young artist to participate in the I Madonnari Festival in May.

San Juan, Philippines: No representative and no report given.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet M. Baker, Recording Secretary